

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Derek S. Brindisi, Town Manager

(508) 529- 2901

March 16, 2020

Board of Selectmen Declare Local State of Emergency

UPTON, MA: In response to national and state declarations of emergency to the public health threat of COVID-19, the Board of Selectmen in consultation with the Board of Health today have declared a local state of emergency. The Board of Selectmen at an emergency meeting held this evening, announced that Town Hall, Library and Senior Center will be closed to the public for the same amount of time that schools are closed; effective Tuesday March, 17 2020. With staff working, practicing social distancing and the like, all residents are requested to "call ahead" for any matter for which they need assistance as staff will be available during normal working hours.

This decision will allow the Town to maintain continuity of government and ensure that the Town can meet the needs of the public in the most protective manner for the Town employee and the public generally. Additionally, the Board of Selectmen have authorized the use of remote participation in accordance with the requirements of 940 CMR 29.10 for all boards and committees; and approved all boards and committees to utilize remote participation in the manner authorized by the Governor in the March 12, 2020 Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law.

As a reminder, to protect individuals and families from the spread of the virus, residents must practice caution: wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; use an alcoholbased hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol; avoid shaking hands; cover your coughs and sneezes; clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces; and avoid close contact with people who are sick. If you think you might be symptomatic, call your doctor. Residents are also reminded to practice social distancing: keep your distance from others (six feet apart); do not take public transportation, taxis or ride-shares during this period; avoid crowded places.

Please review the town website at www.uptonma.gov for current and previous announcements regarding COVID-19.

Contacts:

Town Manager Office 508.529.6901 dbrindisi@uptonma.gov

Board of Health Office 508.529.6813 dtiernan@uptonma.gov

One Main Street • Suite 1 • Upton, MA 01568 T: 508.529.6901 • F: 508.529.1010

Police	911	Emergencies Police/Fire/EMS
	508.529.3200	General Business and non-emergency calls
Fire	508.529.3421	General Business and non-emergency calls
DPW	508.529.3067	dwestgate@uptonma.gov
Code Enforcement	508.529.2633	code@uptonma.gov
Library	508.529.6272	mbachtold@uptonma.gov
Recreation	774-216-1438	astgeorge@uptonma.gov
Senior Center	508.529.4558	jnowicki@uptonma.gov
Town Clerk Office	508.529.3566	kmcelreath@uptonma.gov
Mendon/Upton Regional School District		508.634.1585 https://www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/Page/1472
Blackstone Valley Tech		508.529.7758

#####